

HOOD CANAL BRIDGE NEWS



West-Half Retrofit and East-Half Replacement Project

September 2004

Concrete progress: Floor pours begin at PA site

Crews working on the Hood Canal Bridge graving dock facility poured concrete in mid-August for what are the project's first floor sections.

The concrete pour was a significant step forward in the facility's construction. By the end of August, approximately 25 percent of the 9-inch thick upper graving dock floor will be in place. Ultimately, the floor will continue 12,000 cubic yards of concreted over area measuring 460 feet by 905 feet.

Since April, all of the construction work has taken place around a major archaeological excavation at the 22.5-acre site. The Washington State Department of Transportation plans to build 14 new Hood Canal Bridge pontoons, and retrofit three more, at the Port Angeles facility.

WSDOT workers in August 2003 discovered artifacts from what archaeologists now believe was an ancient Native American village.

Five agencies -- WSDOT, Federal Highways Administration, State Historic Preservation Office, US Army Corps of Engineers and the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe -- ultimately agreed to a site treatment plan that provided for the removal of human remains and a major archaeological site investigation. In April, Larson Anthropological and Archaeological Services of Gig Harbor was hired by WSDOT to conduct the archaeology effort.



Kiewit-General crews in August pour concrete for a floor section at the Port Angeles graving dock site where new Hood Canal Bridge pontoons will be assembled.

While WSDOT had hoped to complete archaeology work in September, archaeology crews will continue working at the site into the fall. A mechanical screening operation was installed in August that could speed some of the investigation.

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HCB anchor cables set for review

Some marine openings of the State Route 104 Hood Canal Bridge were restricted in August after the discovery of a broken anchor cable.

Crews discovered the slack anchor cable Aug. 11 during routine maintenance inspections. WSDOT used divers and a remote operated camera and discovered the break was near one of the bridge's large anchors (ranging from 685 to 1,875 tons each) in about 350 feet of water. The cable in question at-

tached to the northeast corner of the east-half draw span.

WSDOT engineers planned to repair the anchor cable by Sept. 10. Sections of the cable will be tested to determine the cause of its failure.

This anchor helps maintain the alignment of the draw span resisting forces exerted on the bridge during certain tides and winds. The marine restriction will not affect road-

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Project summary

The SR 104 Hood Canal Bridge includes project includes construction of a graving dock in Port Angeles for the fabrication of pontoons and anchors. The west side vehicle pullout adjacent to the west bridge approach remains closed to public access. The lanes on the west half of the bridge deck have been reduced to 11 feet in width with a 1-foot shoulder. Wide-loads require special permission to cross the bridge during this phase. That permission is available only through the Port Orchard Maintenance office, (360) 874-3050. Pedestrians are prohibited on the bridge.

For the latest construction updates visit www.hoodcanalbridge.com

A bridge to a bridge

Crews from Kiewit-General, the project contractor, are building a temporary platform adjacent to the existing east-half roadway upon which a new road section will be built. Next year, the existing roadway will be rolled out of the way and the new roadway will be rolled into its place.



Community outreach big part of a big job

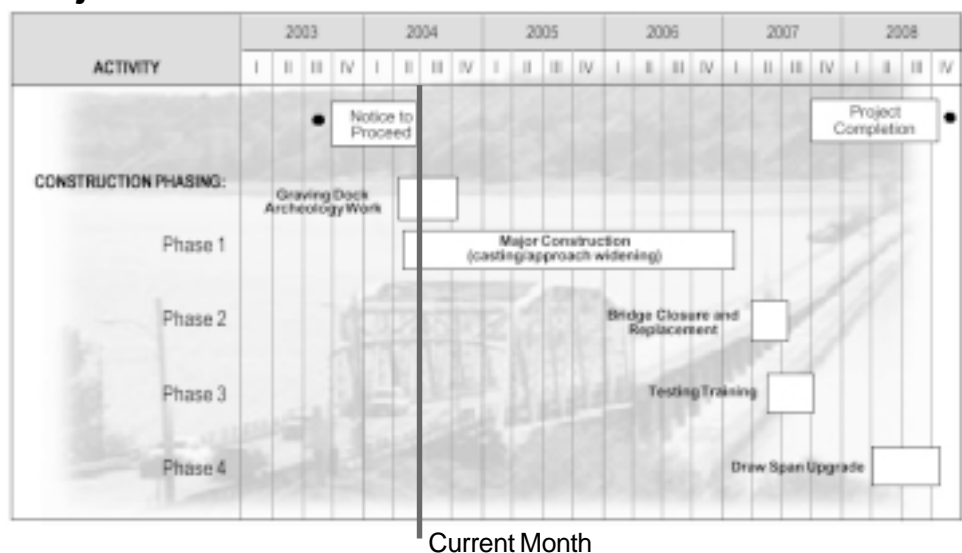
Since December 1997, when WSDOT began updating bridge replacement and retrofit plans, the department has engaged in significant public information efforts. That community dialogue continues even now that the bridge project is under construction.

WSDOT maintains a web site (www.hoodcanalbridge.com) that includes updated project news, general information and photos. The department also offers speakers for community organizations interested in the latest project information.

The outreach will continue throughout the project, building toward the anticipated 2007 8-week bridge closure when the approximately 20,000 average daily trips across the bridge are forced to find alternate routes.

Want a presentation for your club or organization? Contact the HCB communication team at (360) 357-2789, or via e-mail: orfeedback@wsdot.wa.gov.

Project Schedule



Pour

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Meanwhile, construction crews at the graving dock site have installed more than 50 percent of the graving dock walls, as well as a coffer dam at the Port Angeles Harbor's edge.

The coffer dam will hold back the harbor water so excavation near the shore can take place.

At the bridge site about 50 miles east, crews are installing a leak detection system

in west-half pontoons.

The leak-detection system is intended to give an advanced warning of water in a bridge pontoon. A similar system will be installed in the new east half.

Large sections of the bridge's west half have been widened and crews are forming and building new south-side barriers. The deck-widening effort will finish for the season before the wet weather begins in early October.

Anchor

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way traffic. Through bridge's 42-year history, WSDOT has routinely replaced anchor cables that were damaged or worn.

Each year, the WSDOT sends in engineers, divers and underwater cameras to inspect the cables on each of the state's float-

ing bridges. These studies look for corrosion, wire breakage and other signs of wear and tear. WSDOT in 2003 completed a \$600,000 project to replace west-half anchor cables. During the entire bridge rehabilitation process, WSDOT will replace nearly 13 miles of cable.

Hood Canal Bridge News

is prepared monthly by the WSDOT as a service to those interested in the Hood Canal Bridge retrofit and replacement project.

Traffic information Hood Canal Bridge:
1-800-419-9085.

Weather and roadway conditions:
www.wsdot.wa.gov/traffic.

If you have any comments on **Hood Canal Bridge News** or would like more information contact Lloyd Brown, communication manager, at (360) 357-2789 or via E-mail: brownl@wsdot.wa.gov.